

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 16, 1999

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—1999–2000 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 23**

**Introduced by Assembly Member Lowenthal**

December 7, 1998

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An act to add Section 622.2 to the Streets and Highways Code, relating to highways.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 23, as amended, Lowenthal. ~~State Highway:~~  
*Highways: State Highway Route 710.*

Existing law designates and describes state highway routes, including *State Highway Route 710*.

This bill would *require the City of Long Beach to transfer a specified portion of a highway, specified portions of certain streets, and certain bridges to state ownership, as prescribed, and would require the department to repair and maintain the transferred property as a continuation of State Highway Route 710.*

*The bill would revise the designation and description of State Highway Route 710, upon completion of the specified transfers, to include the transferred property.*

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

SECTION 1. ~~(a)~~—The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

~~(1)~~

(a) The southern terminus of the 710 Freeway (State Highway Route 710) serves as the major entryway to the City of Long Beach's downtown business, governmental, and residential ~~sections~~ *districts, as well as the Port of Long Beach, the nation's busiest seaport.*

~~(2)~~

(b) The Department of Transportation currently has jurisdiction and control of the 710 Freeway within the City of Long Beach to a point immediately south of the Pacific Coast Highway (State Highway Route 1).

~~(3)~~

(c) The remaining portion of the 710 Freeway south of the Pacific Coast Highway, *which is commonly known as Harbor Scenic Drive*, is presently under the jurisdiction of the City of Long Beach. *The portion of Harbor Scenic Drive that is between Anaheim Street and Ocean Boulevard is controlled by the Harbor Department of the City of Long Beach.*

~~(4)~~

(d) The deplorable condition and appearance of the 710 Freeway that is located within the City of Long Beach *and the Port of Long Beach* creates an extremely bad image for citizens and visitors traveling to and from the downtown areas of the city, the Queensway Bay and Aquarium facilities, and the Port of Long Beach.

~~(5)~~

(e) It is essential that the main transportation arterial leading into the heart of downtown Long Beach and the city's coastline attractions and activities, as well as the nation's busiest port, should be safe, clean, upgraded, beautified, and maintained at the highest possible level.

~~(6)~~—

(f) *This portion of the 710 Freeway is a vital link in the statewide transportation system and provides direct access to the Ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles, which*

1 together form the third largest seaport complex in the  
2 world.

3 (g) Ensuring safe and efficient access to both ports is  
4 extremely vital to the nation, as 25 percent of all  
5 waterborne trade in the nation, with an estimated value  
6 of \$162,000,000,000, is through these two ports.

7 (h) On a nationwide basis, 2,500,000 jobs are linked to  
8 this trade, and \$23,000,000,000 are generated in customs,  
9 and federal income and business, and state and local, taxes  
10 and charges.

11 (i) The Ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles generate  
12 approximately 500,000 jobs in the Counties of Los  
13 Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, and  
14 Ventura.

15 (j) The trade generated by the two ports and the  
16 corresponding benefits are expected to more than double  
17 by 2010.

18 (k) For several years, the City of Long Beach and the  
19 Port of Long Beach had discussions with the Department  
20 of Transportation regarding the transfer of the remaining  
21 portion of the 710 Freeway to the department in order for  
22 the department to repair and maintain this portion of the  
23 710 Freeway as part of the state highway system, but no  
24 transfer has occurred to date.

25 ~~(b) Upon the effective date of this, the Department of~~  
26 ~~Transportation~~

27 SEC. 2. Section 622.2 is added to the Streets and  
28 Highways Code, to read:

29 622.2. (a) For the purposes of this section, the  
30 “Shoemaker Bridge Complex” consists of all of the  
31 following in the City of Long Beach:

32 (1) The Shoemaker Bridge, crossing the Los Angeles  
33 River and located between Harbor Scenic Drive and  
34 Sixth and Seventh Streets.

35 (2) The portion of Sixth Street that is between the  
36 Shoemaker Bridge and North Ord Court.

37 (3) The portion of Seventh Street that is between the  
38 Shoemaker Bridge and Golden Avenue.

39 (b) The City of Long Beach shall transfer the portion  
40 of Harbor Scenic Drive that is between the merger with

1 Route 710, near Route 1, and Ocean Boulevard, and the  
2 portion of Ocean Boulevard that is between Harbor  
3 Scenic Drive and Route 103 to state ownership as  
4 expeditiously as possible in the following two phases:

5 (1) The portion of Harbor Scenic Drive that is  
6 between the merger with Route 710, near Route 1, and  
7 Ocean Boulevard, but excluding the Shoemaker Bridge  
8 Complex, shall be transferred on or before February 1,  
9 2000.

10 (2) The Shoemaker Bridge Complex and the portion  
11 of Ocean Boulevard that is between Harbor Scenic Drive  
12 and Route 103, shall be transferred in the following  
13 segments upon completion of all construction projects  
14 programmed by the Port of Long Beach for the  
15 transferred segment:

16 (A) The Shoemaker Bridge Complex.

17 (B) The portion of Ocean Boulevard that is between  
18 Harbor Scenic Drive and the Gerald Desmond Bridge,  
19 including the connector ramps between Ocean  
20 Boulevard and Harbor Scenic Drive.

21 (C) The Gerald Desmond Bridge.

22 (D) The portion of Ocean Boulevard that is between  
23 the Gerald Desmond Bridge and Route 103.

24 (c) Upon completion of each of the transfers made  
25 under subdivision (b), the department shall repair and  
26 maintain damaged guardrail, concrete barriers, signage,  
27 and potholes; correct slope erosion and drainage facilities;  
28 clean graffiti and weeds; and generally make safe this  
29 portion of land as the continuation of the 710 Freeway.

30 ~~SEC. 2. Section 622.2 is added to the Streets and~~  
31 ~~Highways Code, to read:~~

32 ~~622.2. Route 710 shall also include that portion of the~~  
33 ~~freeway between its intersection of the northern end of~~  
34 ~~Harbor Scenic Drive to its junction with both Sixth and~~  
35 ~~Seventh Streets wholly within the City of Long Beach,~~  
36 ~~including the Shoemaker Bridge across the Los Angeles~~  
37 ~~River, and weeds; and generally make the transferred~~  
38 ~~property safe as a continuation of Route 710.~~

1     (d) Notwithstanding Section 622, upon completion of  
2     the final transfer under subdivision (b), Route 710 shall  
3     include all of the following in the City of Long Beach:

4     (1) The portion of Harbor Scenic Drive that is  
5     between the merger with existing Route 710, near Route  
6     1, and Ocean Boulevard, including the connector ramps  
7     between Harbor Scenic Drive and Ocean Boulevard and  
8     the Shoemaker Bridge Complex.

9     (2) The portion of Ocean Boulevard that is between  
10    Harbor Scenic Drive and Route 103, including the Gerald  
11    Desmond Bridge.

